



National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior

Assateague Island
National Seashore

7206 National Seashore Lane
Berlin, Maryland 21811

410-629-6607 phone
410-629-1023 fax

Program Descriptions

Bring your students to the park for a fun, free and hands-on learning experience!

We will begin accepting Fall, 2013 program requests at 8:00 a.m. on August 19, 2013. We will begin accepting Spring, 2014 requests at 8:00 a.m. on January 13, 2014.

To request a program, please complete a program reservation form and email it to jay.johnstone@nps.gov. Forms, background materials and pre-visit activities can be found on our website: <http://www.nps.gov/asis/forteachers/index.htm>

Down by the Seashore



Grade: Pre-Kindergarten
Duration: 45 minutes
Location: Assateague Island Visitor Center

This program encourages young learners to use their senses to learn about the island. Students will have an active learning experience by handling live creatures, shells, feathers, bones, egg cases and other island treasures. Park rangers will use songs, pantomime and living creatures to excite the imagination.

Maryland VSC Science Standards: PK: 1 A B C D, 3 A C, 4 A

KinderKritters

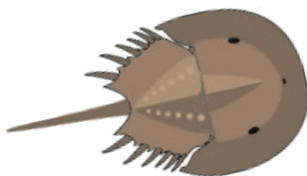


Grade: Kindergarten
Duration: 1 hour
Location: Assateague Island Visitor Center

Young students begin to learn about the interesting creatures living on land and in the waters around Assateague. Park rangers will use puppets, songs, pantomime and living creatures to guide young learners in their Assateague exploration.

Maryland VSC Science Standards: K: 1 A B C D E, 2 A E, 3 A B D, 4 A, 5 A B, 6 B D

CREATURE FEATURE



Grade: First grade
Duration: 1 hour
Location: Assateague Island Visitor Center

First graders start to examine some of the connections that living things have with one another. Assateague is a special place to experience some of these important connections. This is an active learning adventure.

Maryland VSC Science Standards: G1: 1 A B C D E, 2 C E, 3 A B, 4 A C, 6 B D



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Program Descriptions

Life on Sandy Shores

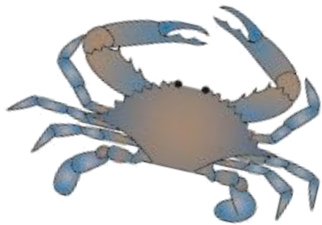


Grade: Second – Fourth Grade
Duration: 1 hour
Location: North Ocean Beach

The beach is a great place to visit and play -but we will take a closer look! Sand, salt, wind, tides, and heat make the beach a tough place to survive. Students will use their senses along with scientific equipment to make fascinating discoveries about animal adaptations.

Maryland VSC Science Standards: G2: 1 A B C D E, 2 D, 4 B, 6 C D; G3: 1 A B C D, 2 A, 3 A C E, 6 D; G4: 1 A B C D, 2 E, 3 C, 6 B D

Salt Marsh

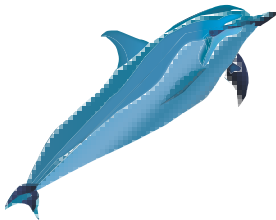


Grade: Second – Fourth Grade
Duration: 1 hour
Location: Old Ferry Landing, in the marsh

Salt marshes are the nurseries of the sea. These smelly, mucky, soggy, buggy places produce and support an incredible amount of life. Students will need appropriate "mucking" footwear for their visit into the wonderful world of marshes. This immersion experience will stimulate the senses while reinforcing the critical role the salt marsh plays in web of life.

Maryland VSC Science Standards: G2: 1 A B C D E, 2 D, 4 B, 6 C D; G3: 1 A B C D, 2 A, 3 A C E, 6 D; G4: 1 A B C D, 2 E, 3 C, 6 B D

Beach on the Move

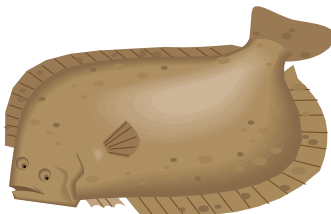


Grade: Fifth Grade and up
Duration: 1 hour
Location: North Ocean Beach

Assateague is an island on the move! Barrier islands are changing every minute with every wave wash. Students will discover how these islands were formed and why this landform moves each day. Students will explore why only certain plants and animals can survive in this ever- changing habitat and the difficulties humans have trying to exist on this moving land.

Maryland VSC Science Standards: G5: 1 A B C D, 2 A, 3 A D E, 6 C D; G6: 1 A B C D, 2 A, 3 E, 6 B C D; G7: 1 A B C D, 2 A B, 6 A C D; G8: 1 A B C D, 2 D E, 6 D

Life of the Salt Marsh



Grade: Fifth Grade and up
Duration: 1 hour
Location: Old Ferry Landing, in the marsh

Salt marshes are some of the most productive ecosystems in the world. Students will discover how salt marshes are formed, how they function, their critical role in the marine web of life and the ecological benefits they provide for the environment. This is an immersion experience. Students will need appropriate "mucking" footwear for their visit into the marsh.

Maryland VSC Science Standards: G5: 1 A B C D, 2 A, 3 A D E, 6 C D; G6: 1 A B C D, 2 A, 3 E, 6 B C D; G7: 1 A B C D, 2 A B, 6 A C D; G8: 1 A B C D, 2 D E, 6 D



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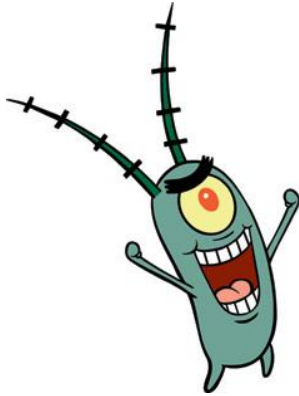
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Program Descriptions

Watershed Watchdogs Grade: 7th grade and up



Duration: 3 hours

Location(s): Old Ferry Landing, beach and lab

Watershed Watchdogs involves students in hands-on, feet-wet biomonitoring and ecologic exploration activities. The program is a conglomerate of several independent but connected activities. Teachers select the components depending on their curriculum goals, seasonal offerings and student skill level.

Biomonitoring and inventory: 1 hour at Old Ferry Landing. Students collect shallow bay vertebrate and invertebrate organisms. Students identify and inventory organisms, recording their observations and data for comparative and inferential studies.

Water Testing: 1 hour at Old Ferry Landing. Students record environmental and water chemistry data using a variety of hand tools, water chemistry kits and probes.

Plankton Lab: 1 hour at UMES Sarbanes lab on mainland. Students learn about plankton and microorganisms through laboratory work using microscopes and id guides. Students record observations through field drawings and database entry.

Beach to Bay: 1 hour on "Life of the Forest Trail". Students walk through 5 distinct biomes while traversing the island. Students compare wind speeds, water salinities and plant adaptations.

Kayak Sinepuxent Bay: 1 hour at Old Ferry Landing. Fall Only. Students kayak the shallow bay while learning about bay ecology, human history and anthropomorphic impacts.

Each activity meets a variety of Maryland VSC and Environmental Literacy standards

BARRIER ISLAND DYNAMICS Grade: Middle and High School

Duration: 3 hours



Location(s): North Ocean Beach and classroom

Assateague is a young, dynamic landform, changed constantly by wind and water. This STEM program involves student use of professional survey equipment to plot the topography of the beach and compare their findings with past transect data. Working in small groups, students collect elevation changes over the width of the beach and graph the data to form transects. Students also collect wind and ocean current data and model island roll over. Students are given the opportunity to predict and identify seasonal changes and make conclusions about the general changes of island topography.

This activity meets a variety of Maryland VSC and Environmental Literacy standards